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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

JOHNSON & JOHNSON HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS INC., Plaintiff, v. SAVE ON SP, LLC, Defendant.	Civil Action No. 22-2632 (ES)(CLW) <i>Document Electronically Filed</i> [PROPOSED] FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO SEAL
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This matter having been opened before the Court upon the Defendant Save On SP, LLC's ("SaveOnSP") Motion to Permanently Seal portions of JJHCS's June 26, 2023 Letter [ECF 123], Exhibit 2 to the Letter in its entirety, and portions of the June 6, 2023 Transcript [ECF 116]; and the Court having considered the submissions in support of, and any opposition to the Motion if any, as well as the arguments of counsel, if any; and for good cause shown, the Court finds:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The information that SaveOnSP seeks to seal consists of SaveOnSP's proprietary business information.

2. Avoiding the public disclosure of this information is necessary to prevent harm to the parties. *See e.g., Rosario v. Doe*, No. CIV. 08-5185 RMB, 2013 WL 3283903, at *2-3 (D.N.J. June 25, 2013) (sealing records containing private medical information or proprietary information); *Goldenberg v. Indel, Inc.*, 2012 WL 15909, at *3 (D.N.J. Jan. 3, 2012) (granting motion to seal "commercially sensitive and proprietary non-public business information"); *Bracco Diagnostics, Inc. v. Amersham Health Inc.*, 2007 WL 2085350, at *9-10 (D.N.J. July 18, 2007) (granting motion to seal where the public availability of documents containing confidential business information would have put a party at a competitive disadvantage).

3. It is believed that no less restrictive alternative is available to prevent the disclosure of SaveOnSP's proprietary business information. This Motion to Seal has been narrowly tailored to seek sealing as to only those materials that have been deemed confidential.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Upon consideration of the papers submitted in support of the Motion, the Court concludes that SaveOnSP has met its burden of proving, under L. Civ. R. 5.3 and applicable case law, that the information should be filed under seal. Specifically, the Court concludes that: (a) the June 26, 2023 Letter [ECF 123], Exhibit 2 to the Letter, and the June 6, 2023 Transcript [ECF 116] therein contains confidential information; (b) the parties have a legitimate interest in maintaining the confidentiality of this information in order to protect against disclosure; (c) public disclosure of this information would result in clearly defined and serious injury; and (d) no less restrictive alternative to sealing the subject documents is available.

2. The foregoing conclusions are supported by relevant case law holding that the right of public access to court filings is not absolute and may be overcome by a showing such as made here, in the discretion of the trial court. *See Nixon v. Warner Comms., Inc.*, 435 U.S. 589, 603 (1978). The Court, upon such a proper showing, may in its discretion prevent confidential materials from being transmuted into materials presumptively subject to public access. *Leucadia, Inc. v. Applied Extrusion Techs., Inc.*, 998 F.2d 157, 166 (3d Cir. 1993).

BASED UPON the foregoing findings of fact and conclusions of law:

IT IS on this ____ day of _____, 2023, **ORDERED** that SaveOnSP's Motion to Seal is hereby **GRANTED**; and it is **FURTHER ORDERED** that the materials identified in Exhibit A to the Declaration of E. Evans Wohlforth, Jr. are hereby **PERMANENTLY SEALED**.

Hon. Cathy L. Waldor, U.S.M.J